



## TECHNOLOGY & INTERNET-RELATED SCAMS

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## INTERNET FRAUD:

An **Internet fraud** is the use of Internet services or software with Internet access to defraud victims or to otherwise take advantage of them; for example, by stealing personal information, which can even lead to identity theft.

A very common form of Internet fraud is the distribution of rogue security software. Internet services can be used to present fraudulent solicitations to prospective victims, to conduct fraudulent transactions, or to transmit the proceeds of fraud to financial institutions or to others connected with the scheme.

From Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet\\_fraud](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_fraud)



"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."

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## TYPES OF SCAMS

**Common Fraud Scams:** Telemarketing, Nigerian Letter, Advance Fee or Healthcare/Insurance Fraud

**Investment-related Scams:** Letter of Credit, Prime Bank Note, Ponzi or Pyramid Schemes

**Internet Scams:** Internet Auction, Non-Delivery of Merchandise, Credit Card, Business Letter

**Fraud Target - Senior Citizens:** Healthcare/Insurance, Counterfeit Prescription drugs, Funeral/cemetery fraud, Investment or Reverse Mortgage scams

From FBI Common Fraud list [https://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud/internet\\_fraud](https://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud/internet_fraud)



## COMMON SENSE

- ✓ Evaluate what personal information is available online and where.
- ✓ Change passwords – use strong passwords with a mix of upper and lowercase letters, numbers and symbols.
- ✓ Monitor financial accounts – check bank and credit card accounts for odd activity.
- ✓ Keep computer and software updated – run updates!
- ✓ Don't click unknown links or attachments.



## RESOURCES

**AARP Personal Technology:** <http://www.aarp.org/home-family/personal-technology/> Articles & videos on technology including: scams, Internet security, mobile devices, social media, reviews of gadgets, online presence management, passwords, and wifi.

**Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI):** <https://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud/internet-fraud> Tips to protect self and family from common Internet fraud and schemes.

**Nebraska Attorney General:** <https://ago.nebraska.gov/consumer-protection> This resource provides information on consumer protection including: scams, identity theft, and senior fraud prevention.

**NebraskaAccess:** <http://nebraskaccess.ne.gov/> Resource provides useful links to websites pre-selected by librarians at the Nebraska Library Commission. The Computers & Internet topic includes: computer virus and security, hoax and urban legends and web page design. The Science & Technology topic includes: computing, databases, How Stuff Works and telecommunications info.

**Stay Safe Online:** <https://staysafeonline.org/> Resource on how to stay safe online from National Cyber Security Alliance.

